Portrait of David A. Wells Given by His Daughter-in-Law, Mrs. Marrietta Allcroft of England-Ozias Dodge Spoke Upon the Graphic Arts-Valuable Loan Collection From New York on Exhibition.

programme of exceptional interest that which occupied the winter ion of the New London County critical society held Wednesday after in the Converse Art gallery meeting was of especial note owner to the presentation of a handsome won portrait of the late Hon. David Wells, the gift of his daughter-inally, Mrs. Marietta Alicroft, of England, and an exceptionally interesting address on the Graphic Arts by Ozlas Dodge. Mr. Dodge had an innusual display of engravings to illustrate his talk, many of them by the best known masters. The whole collection, valued at about \$4,000, was loaned Mr. Dodge for the occasion by the Frederick Keppel & Co. of New York city. Both before and after the meeting Mr. Dodge accompanied those present about the room, pointing out the differences and ontable points of the various engravings. The most valuable piece of work of the whole collection was a small line engraving valued at \$658. There was also an interesting display of Mr. Dodge's own work.

Known in the history of the government, namely, that of "special commissioner of revenue of the United States," was created, in which Mr. Wells served with distinction.

All agree, however, in according to him a high rank as an author and a deep thinker and his fame as such extends beyond the boundaries of our own country.

The New London Historical society may well be proud of all four of her presidents.

C. A. Williams of New London was the third, and the fourth is our presient time.

I will add in closing that the society was never in better condition, enver so ably managed as at the present time.

And very much of encouragement and support have come from the women of this county.

I feel sure that I express not only the sentiment of members of this society, but also those of every person present, in sending to Mrs. Alicroft our honored citizen—the

Presentation by L. O. Smith.

President Ernest F. Rogers presided at the session and spoke briefly. He called upon Leonard O. Smith for a report on securing the picture of the late David A. Wells, a former president of the society. Mr. Smith spoke as follows, the picture being unveiled during his address:

the society. Mr. Smith spoke as lollows, the picture being unveiled during his address:

Mr. President, Members of the New London County Historical Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Tou will remember that at our last meeting in Stater hall one year ago the honored president, Ernest E. Rogers, expressed a wish that the cociety might have a portrait of the late David A. Wells to hang among others of those who were once presidents of this society. Jonathan Trumbull and I were appointed a committee to see if such a one could be obtained.

Letters were written by Mr. Trumbull to two or three outside cities where he had hoped to secure one, but none could be feund.

Finally it occurred to me to write to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Marietta ABcroft, in England.

She replied: "I much regret that no portraits exist." But she expressed much interest in the plan, stating further that his memory was very dear to her, and added that if we would have an enlarged engraving made of a small picture which she enclosed she would pay all charges and take pleasure in presenting it to the society.

In the name, therefore, of Mrs. Marletta Allcroft, your committee present this portrait to the New London Historical society.

Two Distinguished Names.

Two Distinguished Names.

It is perhaps fitting that I should add a few words more concerning him whose name we thus honor by placing this portrait upon the walls of our historical society. The records show that the first president of the society was our distinguished citizen, Hon. Lafayette S. Foster. It gives me all the more pleasure to mention this name because Mr. Foster was a Franklin boy—born in my own native town. The people in the town of Franklin take great pride in counting him an honored son.

A worthy successor of Mr. Foster was Hon. David Ames Wells, a Massachusetts boy, born in Springfield in Etchings Like Original Pencil Drawis perhaps fitting that I should

honored son.

A worthy successor of Mr. Foster was Hon. David Ames Wells, a Massachusetts boy. born in Springfield in the year 1828, a graduate of Williams college, then of Harvard Scientific school. Mr. Wells was the author of several text books on chemistry, geology, and physics. gy and physics.

After the close of the Civil war he was made chairman of a committee to inquire into methods of raising the revenues of the country and was final-revenues of the country and was final-

revenues of the country and was finally appointed commissioner of internal revenue of the United States.

He rendered other distinguished services both to the state and nation.

Later in life he became a strong advocate of free trade, but in this he did not have the support of the dominant party nor of a majority of the people of the country.

Accepted by A. H. Brewer.

President Rogers thanked Mr. Smith for his efforts in securing the portrait and called upon Arthur H. Brewer for a speech of acceptance. Mr. Brewer, who was an intimate personal friend

who was an intimate personal friend of the late Mr. Wells, gave many reminiscences and told of his character.

It was Mr. Wells, said Mr. Brewer, who was really instrumental in saving the union back in 1864, when the United States bonds were in a perilous state of depression. He was then a teacher in Troy, N. Y., and he sprang prominently into public life through the publication in that year of an essay on the resources and debtpaying ability of the United States, bearing the title of Our Burden and Our Strength. Originally prepared as bearing the title of Our Burden and Our Strength. Originally prepared as an essay for a local club, it was almost immediately reprinted by the Logal. Publication society of New York and also by the United States government and became the great pamphlet of the war period, circulating in this country and in Europe, where it was translated into French and German, to the extent of many thousand copies, and strengthening the credit of the government as was expressed at the time ment—as was expressed at the time— as much as would have been accom-plished by a great and successful bar-tle. One result of this publication was a conference between President Lin-coln and Mr. Wells, at the request of the former, in February, 1865, as to the best means of dealing with the great national debt which the war had en-tailed and the best method of raising tailed and the best method of raising the revenue through taxation for the payment of the interest and for defraying also the great concurrent increase in the expenses of the government. Congress subsequently raised a commission to inquire into the matter and Mr. Wells was appointed its chairman. The report of the commission, mainly the result of Mr. Wells' investigations, was of such a masterly character that the commission was dissolved and a special office, running for four years, never before or since

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extends beyond the boundaries of our own country.

The New London Historical society may well be proud of all four of her presidents.

C. A. Williams of New London was the third, and the fourth is our present honored Ernest Rogers.

I will add in closing that the society was never in better condition, never so ably managed as at the present time.

And very much of encouragement and support have come from the women of this county.

I feel sure that I express not only the sentiment of members of this society, but also those of every person present, in sending to Mrs. Allcroft our united thanks for her gift—the portrait of our honored citizen—the iste David A. Wells.

The Graphic Arts.

The Graphic Arts. President Rogers then called upon ir. Dodge for a talk on The Graphic

Mr. Dodge said that he had decided Mr. Dodge said that he had declined to speak upon the side of the graphic arts, which was the most interesting to him, an on which he was best informed—the processes and methods of mak-

ing the engravings.

It would be well at the start, he said, to divide all printing into three classes — intaglio surfaces, or those in which all the inked portions to be printed are held in lines or dots below the main surface, such as line engravings, etchsurface, such as line engravings, etcaings, mezzotints aquatints, etc. Second, relievo surfaces, where all portions printed are above the main surface, as ordinary type on the printed
page, wood engravings, and the majority of all modern printed pictures,
like half-tones and line-blocks. Third,
one surface only, the link to be printed resting on the surface that alse
supports the paper printed, as all lithsupports the paper printed, as all lith-ographic work.

Explained by Charts.

Mr. Dodge showed a chart on which and then processes were classified, and then proceeded to explain the methods and characteristics of each.

A part of Mr. Dodge's talk which proved most interesting had to do with his own experience in engraving. He

his own experience in engraving. He said, in part:

About 15 years ago I was greatly interested in making drawings on stone, and printing them on a little hand press myself. I learned the art abroad and from a poor Frenchman whom I found stranded in the great city because I suppose he really knew too much to be of use to the great American Lithographic Trust company.

Etchings Like Original Pencil Draw-

ings. There are some of my etchings made by this process on the walls, and you will notice that while they are prints from intagio plates, they look

special transparent paper, which was essential to the carrying out of the process, so I invented that also.

I had a definite ideal when I was working this method out, and that was to preserve as far as possible the first strokes, the real intention of the artist.

After five years' hard work, I should say, looking back on it now, I had an idea also that it might revive intaglio printing, which is after all the most beautiful way of printing, for it is very much quicker than the old way of

making an intaglio plate.

Instead, it has become commercial and is used for relief cut making ex-

four hundred years to get lines down into copper.

The method is really very simple. The dines of the drawing are transferred to a perfectly clean copper plate, and these lines refuse the copper that rapidly forms on the plate in the electrolitic bath. The result is, as in all engaved plates, a groove representing the line to hold the link in printing, with this difference—the old face of the copper is at the bottom of the errors.

Mr. Dodge was compimented on his excellent address and all took much interes tin the exhibit. About a dozen New London members of the society were included in the attendance.

Contributions for Maintenance Fund. In connection with the raising of an endowment fund to defra; the exan endowment fund to defra; the expensees of maintaining the society's home in New London—the Shaw mansion—a contribution of \$25 was reported from W. A. Chester of Boston, and an interesting letter from him was

The committee arranging for the meeting consisted of H. A. Tirrell, Jonathan Trumbull and L. O. Smith.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS

IN DISAGREEMENT. Futile Effort to Effect Reconcilation on Naval Bill.

Washington, Feb. 12—Economy dif-ferences among the house democrats today reached the leader of the democratic side and efforts were made to reconcole the factions which threaten reconcole the factions which threaten to precipitate a struggle over the naval bill with it stwo battleship provision when it appears on the floor.

The bill as framed by the committee would carry about \$146,090,000 and the economy advecates insist that it should be vut about \$20,000,000. Mr. Underwood called on Representative Padgett of Tennessee, chairman of the naval affairs committee, and arged him to endeavor to cut down the biff. Mr. Padgett called the democrats of his committee together but they were mable to agree on any reduction.

Shoes for 4,060 Bowery Poor, New York, Feb. 12.—Nearly 4,050 pairs of shiny shoes trod the Bowery sidewalks tonight. They were "Big Time" Sufficers annual birthday gift to the Bowery outcasts. Allaough Sufficers his relatives obeyed his wishes in continuing the custom he instituted many years ago.

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